



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
727 East Durango, A-507
San Antonio, Texas 78206-1204

February 2005

Dear Farm Operator/Owner:

You are invited to an information meeting on the Conservation Security Program (CSP). CSP is the new conservation program authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to support ongoing stewardship on privately owned agricultural lands. Program participation is voluntary.

The **Cibolo Watershed** has been selected as one of 18 watersheds eligible for the new Conservation Security Program (CSP) in 2005. This area covers a portion of Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall and Wilson Counties. The watershed area includes 186,300 acres of cropland, 103,300 of pastureland and 237,200 acres of rangeland that may be eligible for CSP.

The local NRCS field office in your county will be taking application(s) during the sign-up period. Information meetings will be held in each county prior to the signup. At the meeting NRCS will explain producer eligibility, land eligibility, minimum requirements, and potential payment options under CSP. We encourage you to attend one of the meetings prior to our official signup period:

March 8	8:00- noon	New Braunfels Extension Service 325 Resource Drive New Braunfels, Texas
March 8	1:30am-4:30 am	Stockdale City Hall 700 W. Main Street Stockdale, Texas

CSP identifies and rewards farmers who currently maintain high standards of soil and water conservation on their lands. Participating farms are expected to be using good soil quality practices (crop rotations, cover crops, reduced tillage, prescribed grazing) and good water quality practices (conservation tillage, terraces, grassed waterways, managed livestock access to streams, nutrient and pest management, and irrigation water management) on cropland and pastureland. Qualifying farms are eligible for financial and technical assistance to maintain and enhance their conservation efforts.

Join us at one of the information sessions and learn if the Conservation Security Program has a place in your farming and/or ranching operation.

Sincerely,

Fernando H. Garza
District Conservationist

